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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER ANNA TOVAR

July 12, 2022

Docket Control
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Arizona Corporation Commission Investigation into Alternate Water Service for Rio Verde Foothills Community (Docket No. W-00000A-22-0194).

Commissioners, public service corporations, and the Rio Verde Foothills Community,

Late last year, the City of Scottsdale informed the Rio Verde Foothills community that it would no longer be supplying water to the community at the end of 2022. Currently, the community gets its water from either privately owned wells or water-hauling services using water provided by the City. Around 500 homes in Rio Verde rely on water hauling services. As of today, no solution has been found.

Maricopa County Supervisor Thomas Galvin reached out to my office, other Commissioner offices, and Staff to raise the issue and ask the Commission to provide a venue for the public to discuss potential solutions. I am opening this docket to provide that space. It is my understanding that there are two possible solutions being discussed: 1. forming a Domestic Water Improvement District ("DWID") through Maricopa County or, 2. working with a public service corporation to establish a standpipe that would allow water hauling to continue.

I would like to hear from the Rio Verde community on this issue. Specifically, I would like to know if they would like the Commission to explore a PSC standpipe option or would rather proceed with DWID or another solution. I understand there are several PSCs near the community that might be interested in providing standpipe service to Rio Verde. If the majority of the community would like to be served by a standpipe, perhaps one of those PSCs will step forward to assist. The Commission would need to approve any standpipe rates charged to Rio Verde prior to serving the community. That application to approve standpipe service would need to be filed by mid-September so that it can be considered by the Commission before the end of the year.

I appreciate Supervisor Galvin reaching out to my office to see if we can assist this community. It is my hope that this forum is productive and we are able to assist the Rio Verde Foothills in finding a solution so water service is not disrupted.

Sincerely,

Anna Tovar

Anna Tovar
Commissioner

